

KIRKLAND PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES – AUGUST 2022



This spring, the department received a Summer Experiences & Enrichment for Kids (SEEK) grant from the Washington Recreation and Park Association to run an outdoor adventure program for tweens and teens in our community at no cost to participants. The purpose of the SEEK Fund is to increase access to quality, outdoor summer programming for youth and communities who have historically been underserved and who have been most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thanks to the grant, we were able to offer 16 outdoor adventures for teens and tweens this summer including nature walks at Snoqualmie Falls, river floating in Fall City, outdoor yoga at Marsh Park, kayaking on Lake Washington, and hikes to Wallace Falls, Cedar Butte, Pratt River, Baker Lake, Lake Valhalla, and Sunrise Rim trail at Mount Rainier National Park. We also partnered with REI to supply participants with equipment such as daypacks, water bottles, sunscreen, snacks, hats, and hiking shoes.



The SEEK Outdoor Adventure program ran from June 28 through September 1, 2022 and served 100 teens and tweens in the Kirkland area. Youth aged 11-19 from underserved communities were invited to an early registration window to enroll in one adventure before the public. In total 45 teens and tweens took advantage of this early registration window. Each adventure was led by four staff with support from two high school interns. The high school student interns assisted with trip planning, group guiding, and safety assessments as a job shadowing/leadership development opportunity.

The SEEK Outdoor Adventure program was a great success. We were able to remove barriers and create a safe, welcoming, inclusive outdoor experiences for young people, especially those who have not traditionally had access to outdoor recreation due to income, systemic racism, language, or other barriers. This program well received by both participants as well as their parents and guardians. It gave tweens and teens in our area the ability to access the outdoors in a new safe way. We are excited to expand the program next year to reach more tweens and teens in our area.



ADMINISTRATION

PARKS BALLOT MEASURE INITIATIVE

At their August 3 Special Meeting, City Council authorized the formation of the Parks Funding Exploratory Committee (PFEC) to lead the community input process to identify the elements and the funding mechanisms for potential ballot measure(s). PFEC will consist of 30 – 50 community members who live or work in Kirkland and have an interest in Kirkland's parks and recreation services. Committee members will be selected with a preference for those who reflect the diversity of Kirkland and include representatives of interest/activity groups such as community service clubs, aquatics teams, performing arts groups and sports groups. PFEC will meet approximately twice a month starting on Thursday, September 15 through the end of February 2023 and make recommendations to City Council in March 2023.



In parallel with the PFEC process, the City has contracted with Opsis Architecture to develop a robust recreation facility feasibility study. The consultant will evaluate potential locations and design concepts for both a large aquatics and recreation center and two medium community recreation centers, as well as a park re-development conceptual plan for Peter Kirk Park. Kickoff workshops were held in August. Opsis will share an update with PFEC in November and final concepts will be shared in January 2023.

HUMAN SERVICES

RENT ASSISTANCE UPDATE

Residential Rent Relief Program Phase II contracted partner agencies, 4 Tomorrow and India Association of Western Washington, have received the second batch of Rent Assistance referrals. They began working on these 23 additional referrals to determine program eligibility, collect documentation, and administer payment. To circumvent limited cash flow at the agencies, the City provides the agencies with advanced payments to be used for administering assistance to qualified households. A second round of advanced payments are currently in progress and the agencies are expected to administer \$100,000 in assistance upon receipt of the advanced payments.

SAVE THE DATE! 2022 KIRKLAND HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

The 2022 Kirkland Health and Wellness Fair is scheduled for Saturday, October 8, 2022 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Juanita High School (10601 NE 132nd St, Kirkland, WA 98034). This free event is open to all and is a collaboration of King County Promotores Network (KCPN), the City of Kirkland, and Public Health Seattle-King County. A variety of services will be offered including: COVID-19 vaccinations, flu shots, health exams, dental services, information and resource exhibits, music, food, kids' activities, giveaways, volunteer opportunities, and much more. For more information visit the [EVENT WEBPAGE](#) or contact Anny Smith at AMSMITH@KIRKLANDWA.GOV.



PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Below is a high-level summary and status update of the active Park Planning and Development projects. Please visit the Park Planning and Development [WEBSITE](#) to learn more about these projects.

132ND SQUARE PARK

Construction started June 28, 2021. Synthetic turf is scheduled to be installed in early October. The park is expected to be complete in late fall 2022. *Background of the Project:* The City is replacing a non-regulation grass sports field with a synthetic turf field after the installation of a surface water detention structure underneath the field.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE (PROS) PLAN UPDATE

The final draft PROS Plan was reviewed by City Council at their August 3, 2022 Special Meeting. The final document will be presented in September for adoption. See the [PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE \(PROS\) PLAN WEBSITE](#) for details about the plan.

PARK MANAGEMENT

BUSY HOT AUGUST DAYS (AND NIGHTS)

The only thing that slowed down in the parks this past month was the grass in the non-irrigated sites. Here are some highlights from a very busy month of summer fun!

BALLFIELDS/CEMETERY

- Inspected irrigation across the park system
- Repaired water line to drinking fountain at Peter Kirk.
- Pruned a tree overhanging the field at Juanita Beach.
- Blew leaves and grass clippings off pathways and bleachers at sites across the system.
- Hand weeded beds at Ohde Ave Pea Patch.

HORTICULTURE

- Installed goose deterrent lighting at Brink.
- Repaired irrigation systems at Peter Kirk, Marina, McAuliffe, OO Denny, Marsh, Heritage and Totem Lake.
- Staked leaning tree at OO Denny.
- Pruned and cleaned bench area along Waverly Way between Waverly and Heritage.
- Pruned cedar tree overhanging tennis courts and removed dying cedar tree at Juanita Beach.

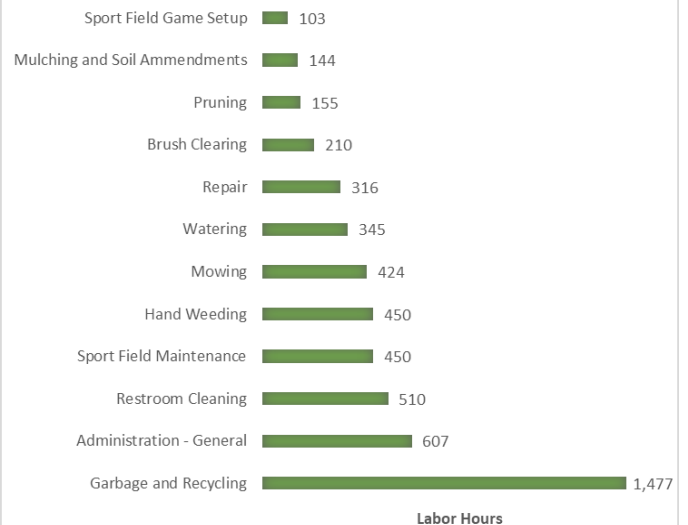
SUPPORT

- Repaired rotting posts on fence at Heritage.
- Replaced shower heads in changing rooms at Peter Kirk Pool.
- Rebuilt deck for lower entrance at North Kirkland Community Center.
- Sanded, routed, and stained table boards for new plaque dedication at Peter Kirk.
- Secured fascia on dock at Marina.
- Updated womens' room toilets at Marsh.

NATURAL AREAS/GREEN KIRKLAND PARTNERSHIP

- Completed five years of maintenance at the Juanita Bay Quick Wins mitigation site and closed the permit.
- Installed goose deterrent lighting at Juanita Beach.
- Repaired broken backpack sprayers in preparation for knotweed and blackberry treatment in September.
- Mowed the Juanita Bay wildflower meadow, leaving perennial lupines standing.
- Removed purple and garden loosestrife from Juanita Bay and Juanita Beach.

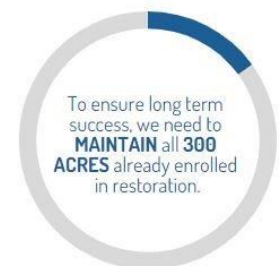
AUGUST TOP 12 TASKS



The mission of the Green Kirkland Partnership (GKP) is to **restore and maintain 510 acres** of natural parklands **by building a supportive community** that works together to protect Kirkland's natural resources for current and future generations.



9.1 new acres enrolled based on data received from Stewards & crews by 8.22.22



44 acres maintained based on data received from Stewards & crews by 8.22.22



7 new Stewards enrolled as of 8.22.22



843 volunteers participated as of 8.22.22

UPCOMING EVENTS

New Green Kirkland Steward Orientation

September 13 from 6 – 8 PM

Forest Stewardship

September 24 from 10 AM – 12 PM

LOCATION & INFO

Online via Zoom

[GREENKIRKLAND.ORG](https://www.greenkirkland.org)

Kingsgate Park

[GREENKIRKLAND.ORG](https://www.greenkirkland.org)

RECREATION SERVICES

WELCOME GIANNA

Gianna Stagnaro joined the Recreation Division as a Program Coordinator at the North Kirkland Community Center on August 16. Gianna will focus on our recreation sports, fitness, and wellness programs. Gianna has several years of recreation experience and was most recently a Recreation Supervisor for the Associated Recreation Council and prior to that an Athletic Coordinator for the City of Seaside, CA. In her free time, Gianna enjoys being outside, going on hikes and playing slow pitch softball. We are happy to have Gianna join the team!



KIRKLAND STEPPERS

The Finish Line Celebration for the Kirkland Steppers took place on August 23, 2022, at the Peter Kirk Community Center. The Steppers participated in a fun trivia game with lunch provided by Taco Del Mar. We had over 80 participants for the 2022 season and are looking forward to another successful program next year. Here are highlights of the program:

- 56% of the participants were between the ages of 65 to 75; 36% were between the ages of 75-85; and 4% of participants under the age of 55.
- 40% of the participants walked in at least 8 of the 12 walk events scheduled.
- 84% of the participants reported the Stepper's program motivated them to increase their weekly activity level.
- 84% of the participants reported seeing increased health benefits while participating in the program (i.e. endurance, lower blood pressure, weight loss, etc.). Staff also heard from several walkers that the biggest benefit they saw was the socialization and increased good mental health.

KIRKLAND KIDS TRIATHALON

The Kirkland Kids Triathlon program returned to Juanita Beach Park on Friday, August 19, after being cancelled for two years due to COVID. The Kids Tri was open to youth aged 3 through 12 years old. The course included a 50-yard swim/splash, a ½ mile bike route, and a ½ mile run. There were 41 athletes who participated in the program this year. We look forward to offering the program again in 2023!



SUMMER DAY CAMPS

The footprint for Kirkland Parks Summer Camps was varied and large this year. Choices for participants were many including the traditional Peter Kirk Summer Camp at the Peter Kirk Community Center, Trackers Earth Camps, Jump Rope and Cheerleading Camps, Junior Summer Day Camp at the North Kirkland Community Center, computer and coding camps, dance camps, filmmaking camps, nature camps, tennis camps, yoga camps and a cooking camp. In the course of one short summer, we served over 1,960 campers and fostered teamwork, self-esteem, friendships, and memories.

AUGUST TEEN NIGHT

The teen team put on a video game tournament night for youth ages 13 - 19 on Friday, August 26 at the North Kirkland Community Center. Up to eight participants at a time played Super Smash Bros via Nintendo Switch on the department's large LED screen. Gold, silver, and bronze 3D-printed medals were awarded to the 1st place, 2nd place and 3rd place winners of the tournament. Many participants stuck around after the tournament to play a few more rounds with the new friends they made. Some parents and community members also stayed to watch these epic video game battles between our 20 participants.



OUTDOOR MOVIE SERIES

Kirkland Parks and Community Services hosted a free series of five double-feature movie nights from July-August at Juanita Beach Park and Heritage Park on the department's oversized LED Movie screen. Each event also included a food and popcorn vendor. The series was generously sponsored by Ziplly Fiber, who had plenty of free giveaways to hand out. Community members enjoyed the time with friends, family, and many people brought their dogs, too.

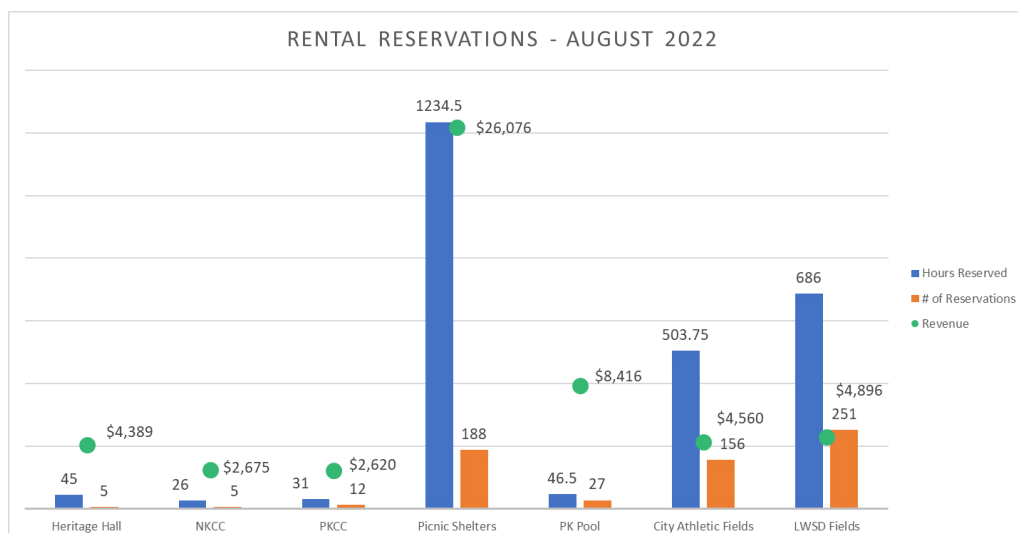
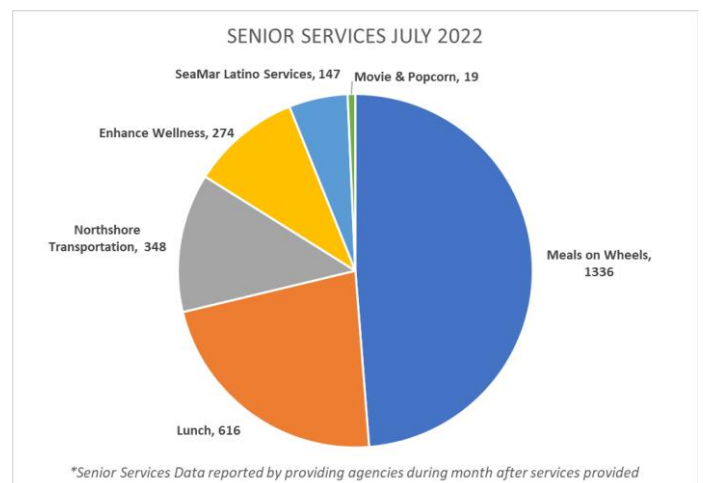
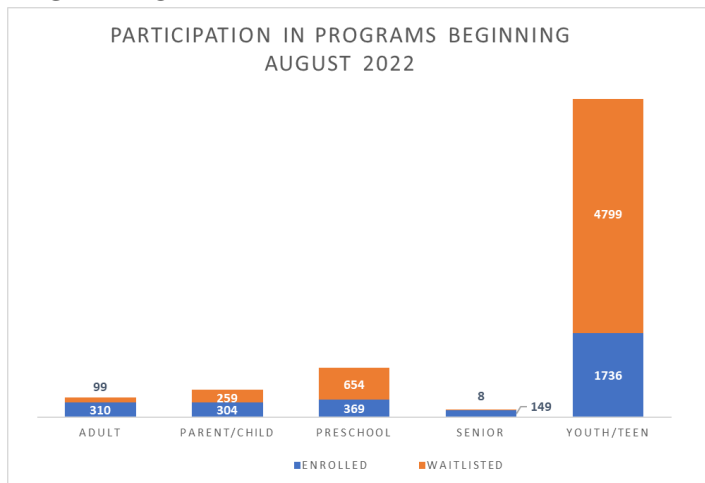
UPCOMING RECREATION EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	INFO
September 10 12 – 4 PM	See Spot Splash	Peter Kirk Pool	KIRKLANDWA.GOV/COMMUNITYEVENTS
September 17 6 PM – 9 PM	Wheels & Reels Drive in Movies	Juanita Beach Park	KIRKLANDPARKS.NET
October 1 11 AM – 4 PM	Harvest Festival	Juanita Beach Park	KIRKLANDWA.GOV/COMMUNITYEVENTS
October 6 6 PM – 8 PM	Outdoor Speaker Series	Heritage Hall	KIRKLANDWA.GOV/COMMUNITYEVENTS

WE'RE HIRING!

The Recreation division is hiring for many fun positions assisting with many programs like the After-School Camp program, Adult Volleyball, Youth Enrichment programs, Pee Wee Sports, Facility Attendant positions supporting community center operations and rental facilities, and many more! Check out our listings today by visiting [WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/PARKSJOB](https://www.kirklandwa.gov/parksjobs)s.

RECREATION DATA



SPECIAL EVENTS

Staff supported the activities listed below through permitting; coordination with other City departments for street closures, Fire and Police support, safety and sanitary regulations, and banners; evening and weekend on-call logistical support as needed; and communication with the public. Information about permitting can be found at WWW.KIRKLANDWA.GOV/SPECIALEVENTS.

39TH ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. On the first Tuesday in August, twenty block parties were held throughout Kirkland including seven parties with street closures. Attendees enjoyed meeting with Councilmembers, Police and Fire first responders while eating great food, playing fun games, and connecting with neighbors.

NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTIES

Neighborhood Block Parties take place throughout the year and provide opportunities to connect with neighbors, celebrate important events and holidays, work on common projects, and strengthen community relationships. In August, four neighborhoods closed their street to come together to share food, music, and participate in community-building activities.



LITTLE LEAGUE JUNIOR SOFTBALL WORLD SERIES



After a two-year hiatus, the Little League Junior Softball World Series returned to Everest Park. Ten softball teams of 13 and 14-year-old girls from around the world descended on Kirkland to compete in the annual tournament, held from July 31 through August 6. Teams represented Washington, Nevada, Michigan, South Carolina, Texas, Connecticut, Philippines, Curacao, Czech Republic and British Columbia.

LTN Global, a Missouri based production company, produced a live broadcast of the Little League Junior Softball World Series which aired on ESPN. The crew of forty-five setup at Everest Park from July 29 – August 6. Temporary infrastructure included six scaffolding structures, one announcer tower with stairs, two TV trucks and a large generator.

KIRKLAND KIDS SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

The 45th annual Kirkland Summer Concerts wrapped up this month with a close out concert by The Not-Its! The six-concert series, hosted by the Kirkland Downtown Association, was free for families to attend. Kids of all ages enjoyed getting outside to enjoy the Juanita Beach Park waterfront while singing and dancing to the latest tunes!

KIRKLAND EVENING SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

It looked like all of Kirkland turned out for the final concert of the 2022 season. Close to 1,000 people found a spot in Marina Park to enjoy the sounds of Good Day Sunshine. The free seven-concert series is hosted by the Kirkland Downtown Association. We extend a warm thank you to the event organizers who work behind the scenes to bring great entertainment to the Kirkland community every year!



KIRKLAND WEDNESDAY MARKET

The Kirkland Wednesday Market continues to offer high quality vendors selling farm fresh produce, sweet treats, brightly colored flowers, plant starts and more. Mike's Shave Ice, a late addition to the market lineup, is creating customer lines not seen all summer. The market operates through September. Learn more about market offerings at WWW.KIRKLANDMARKET.ORG.

KIRKLAND WATERFRONT CAR SHOW

The 19th annual Kirkland Waterfront Car Show, hosted by the Kirkland Downtown Association, was a huge success! Thousands of car lovers turned out to view hundreds of show vehicles including antique, classic, street rod, muscle, exotic vehicles, motorcycles, and more! Attendees enjoyed live music, hot food vendors, and plenty of warm sunshine.



STORYBOOK THEATRE



Studio East's
StoryBook Theater in

the Park series provided a weekend of free community performances at Juanita Beach Park. Audiences enjoyed an original musical adaptation of *Hansel and Gretel*. The brother and sister got caught up in a sticky situation with a shifty chef. In the end, the siblings learned about the importance of working together. We look forward to outdoor theater returning next summer with more fun and exciting tales!

JUANITA FRIDAY MARKET

Now in the third month of the market, we continue to enjoy beautiful summer weather and a healthy customer base. Market staff celebrated Farmers Market Week with a free drawing for 30 prizes which included market logo shirts, freebies from vendors, and other goodies! A few vendors have finished their season early due to staffing shortages, but we've added some new faces to ensure a wide variety of offerings. We also said good-bye to market intern Allie Pae who is returning to school back east. We thank Allie for all her help and support this summer and wish her the best! For more information go to: KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET.



UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	OTHER INFO
Wednesdays thru September 28 3 - 7 PM	Kirkland Wednesday Market	Marina Park	KIRKLANDMARKET.ORG
Fridays thru September 30 3 - 7 PM	Juanita Friday Market	Juanita Beach Park	KIRKLANDWA.GOV/JUANITAFRIDAYMARKET
September 3 Noon - 6 PM	Cloud Food Court Festival	Marina Park	EXPLOREKIRKLAND.COM
September 23-25 Hours vary	Oktoberfest	Marina Park	OKTOBERFESTKIRKLAND.COM